

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 01970 081844Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIE-00 HA-05 CU-04 PA-01 INR-10
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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5732

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FOR EUR/RPM

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OCON CSCE
SUBJ: PRESS ACCREDITATION FOR ANDREW KARKOS

REF: STATE 058552

1. ON BASIS SUPPORT LETTER FROM USDEL WRITTEN ON RECEIPT REFTEL,
KARKOS RECEIVED REGULAR PRESS ACCREDITATION MORNING OF 8 MARCH
(FOR TWO DAYS HE HAD BEEN ALLOWED INTO SAVA CENTER ON TEMPORARY PASS)

.
AFTERNOON SAME DAY USDEL PRESS OFFICER CALLED FROM OPEN PLENARY
SESSION BY CHIEF OF SECRETARIAT PRESS SERVICE WHO PROTESTED
KARKOS' DISTRIBUTION IN SAVA CENTER, INCLUDING PLENARY HALL,
OF NOTICE OF A PRESS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD NEXT DAY, 2 P.M.
AT HOTEL JUGOSLAVIA. NOTICE WRITTEN ON "HELSINKI GUARANTEES
FOR UKRAINE COMMITTEE" LETTERHEAD STATIONARY.

2. IN PRESENCE OF SECRETARIAT PRESS SERVICE CHIEF USDEL PRESS
OFFICER ADVISED KARKOS THAT DEPT OF STATE AND USDEL HAD IN GOOD
FAITH SUPPORTED HIS APPLICATION AS A JOURNALIST, BUT THAT THE
HOST GOVERNMENT DID NOT VIEW INFORMATION DISSEMINATION WITHIN
ITS COUNTRY AS LEGITIMATE ACTIVITIES FOR A FOREIGN JOURNALIST.
PRESS OFFICER VOLUNTEERED OPINION THAT KARKOS PROBABLY HAD BROKEN
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PAGE 02 BELGRA 01970 081844Z

YUGOSLAV PRESS LAW, AND ADVISED HIM THAT, BECAUSE OF THE OBJECTION
RAISED BY THE HOST GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, THE USDEL WOULD BE
OBLIGED WITHDRAW SUPPORT OF HIS CREDENTIALS SHOULD THERE BE
ANY FURTHER SIMILAR INCIDENTS AT THE SAVA CENTER.

3. SECRETARIAT PRESS CHIEF APPEARED SATISFIED, AT LEAST
FOR THE TIME, AND DEPARTED FOR HIS OFFICE.

4. DEL PRESS OFFICER THEN REMINDED KARKOS HOW SEVERAL PRESS CONFERENCES HAD BEEN HANDLED BY YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES DURING THE PREPARATORY MEETING. KARKOS WAS FAMILIAR WITH PREVIOUS CASES. HE APOLOGIZED FOR THE INCIDENT AND LEFT THE SAVA CENTER TO "FILE" HIS STORY, GIVING NO INDICATION WHETHER PRESS CONFERENCE WOULD, IN FACT, BE HELD.

5. COMMENT: IT IS NOT CLEAR HOW MANY NOTICES DISTRIBUTED, OR WHETHER YUGOSLAVS OR POSSIBLY OTHER DELEGATIONS INTEND FURTHER ACTION. WILL REPORT DEVELOPMENTS AS WE BECOME AWARE OF THEM.
GOLDBERG

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 08 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
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